

# Status: Second quantization of Dirac

$$\hat{\Psi}(\vec{x}, t) = \sum_{r=1}^4 \int d^3p \underbrace{\psi_{\vec{p}}^{(r)}(\vec{x}, t)}_{\text{spinorial plane wave}} \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)}$$

$$[\hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)}, \hat{a}_{\vec{p}'}^{(s)}]_{+} = 0 = [\hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+}, \hat{a}_{\vec{p}'}^{(s)+}]_{+}, \quad [\hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)}, \hat{a}_{\vec{p}'}^{(s)+}]_{+} = \delta_{r,s} \delta(\vec{p} - \vec{p}')$$

## 6.18 Second Quantized Operators:

$$\hat{Q} = \int d^3x \hat{\Psi}^{\dagger}(\vec{x}, t) \hat{\Psi}(\vec{x}, t)$$

$$= \sum_{r=1}^4 \sum_{s=1}^4 \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+} \hat{a}_{\vec{p}'}^{(s)} \int d^3x \underbrace{\psi_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+}(\vec{x}, t) \psi_{\vec{p}'}^{(s)}(\vec{x}, t)}_{\delta_{r,s} \delta(\vec{p} - \vec{p}')} = \sum_{r=1}^4 \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+} \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)} \quad \text{positive definite}$$

$$\hat{H} = \int d^3x \hat{\Psi}^{\dagger}(\vec{x}, t) \hat{H}_D(\vec{x}) \hat{\Psi}(\vec{x}, t)$$

$$\epsilon_r = \begin{cases} +1 & ; r=1, 2 \\ -1 & ; r=3, 4 \end{cases}$$

$$E_{\vec{p}} = \sqrt{\vec{p}^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4}$$

$$= \sum_{r=1}^4 \int d^3p \epsilon_r E_{\vec{p}} \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+} \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)}$$

$$= \int d^3p E_{\vec{p}} \left\{ \sum_{r=1}^2 \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+} \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)} - \sum_{r=3}^4 \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+} \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)} \right\}$$

*negative energies*

$$\hat{P} = \int d^3x \hat{\Psi}^{\dagger}(\vec{x}, t) \frac{\hbar}{i} \vec{\nabla} \hat{\Psi}(\vec{x}, t) = \sum_{r=1}^4 \int d^3p \epsilon_r \vec{p} \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+} \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)}$$

$$= \int d^3p \vec{p} \left\{ \sum_{r=1}^2 \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+} \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)} - \sum_{r=3}^4 \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+} \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)} \right\}$$

$$\hat{h} = \int d^3x \bar{\psi}^+(\vec{x}, t) \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{1/2} & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{1/2} \end{pmatrix} \frac{\hbar \nabla}{c} \psi(\vec{x}, t)$$

$$= \frac{\hbar}{2} \sum_{\nu=1}^4 \sum_{\nu'=1}^4 \int d^3p \int d^3p' \frac{1}{a_{\vec{p}}} \frac{1}{a_{\vec{p}'}} \int d^3x \psi_{\vec{p}}^{(\nu)*}(\vec{x}, t) \underbrace{H(\vec{p})}_{=} \psi_{\vec{p}'}^{(\nu')}(\vec{x}, t)$$

$$\epsilon_{\nu} = \begin{cases} \frac{(-1)^{\nu+1}}{2} & ; \nu = 1, 2 \\ \frac{(-1)^{\nu}}{2} & ; \nu = 3, 4 \end{cases} = \epsilon_{\nu'} \psi_{\vec{p}'}^{(\nu')}(\vec{x}, t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{h} = \int d^3p \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sum_{\nu=1}^2 \underbrace{(-1)^{\nu+1}} \frac{1}{a_{\vec{p}}} \frac{1}{a_{\vec{p}}} + \sum_{\nu=3}^4 \underbrace{(-1)^{\nu}} \frac{1}{a_{\vec{p}}} \frac{1}{a_{\vec{p}}} \right\}$$

6.19 Dirac Sea:

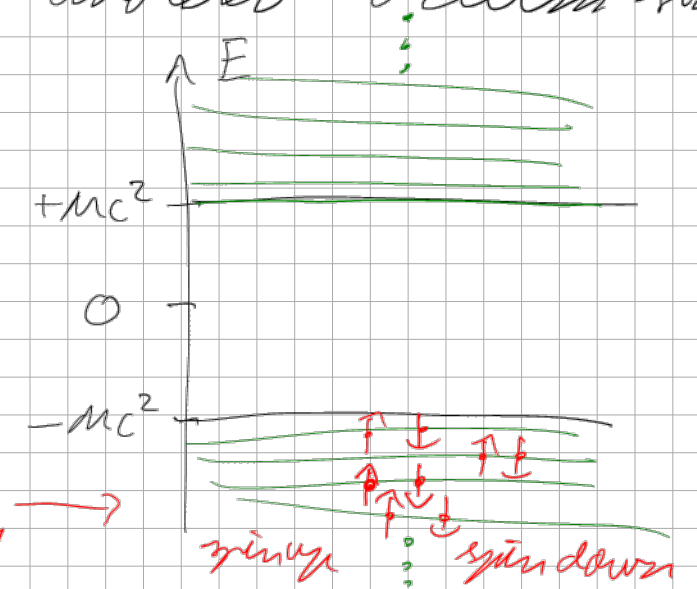
vacuum  $|0\rangle_v$ :  $a_{\vec{p}}^{(\nu)} |0\rangle_v = 0$  for all  $\vec{p}, \nu$

How to physically interpret states with negative energies?

Paul Dirac (1930): consider instead of  $|0\rangle_v$  another vacuum state

$$|0\rangle_p = \prod_{\vec{p}} \prod_{\nu=3}^4 a_{\vec{p}}^{(\nu)} |0\rangle_v$$

$\underbrace{\quad}_{\text{physical}}$ 
 $\underbrace{\quad}_{\text{continuum product}}$



all negative energy states  
Dirac sea = are occupied by one electron with spin down

Consequence:

$$r=1,2; \vec{p}: \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)} |0\rangle_P = 0$$

$$r=3,4; \vec{p}: \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+} |0\rangle_P = 0 \quad \text{Pauli principle}$$

$\uparrow$   $(\hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+})^2 = 0$  due to anticommutativity

Reinterpretation:

$$r=1,2; \vec{p}: \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)}, \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+} \equiv \text{annihilation / creation operators}$$

$$r=3,4; \vec{p}: \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)}, \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(r)+} \equiv \text{creation / annihilation}$$

Dirac hole theory:

$r=1,2$ : particles (e.g. electrons with spin up/down)

$r=3,4$ : antiparticles (e.g. positrons " " " " )

New notation:

\* particles: remaining

$$\text{creation operators: } \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(1)+} = \hat{b}_{\vec{p}}^{(1)+}, \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(2)+} = \hat{b}_{\vec{p}}^{(2)+}$$

$$\text{annihilation " : } \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(1)} = \hat{b}_{\vec{p}}^{(1)}, \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(2)} = \hat{b}_{\vec{p}}^{(2)}$$

\* antiparticles: exchange of roles

$$\text{creation operators: } \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(3)+} = \hat{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(3)+}, \hat{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(4)+} = \hat{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(4)+}$$

annihilation  $a$  :  $\hat{a}^{(3)X} = \hat{d}^{(2)}_{\vec{p}}$ ,  $\hat{a}^{(4)X} = \hat{d}^{(2)}_{\vec{p}}$

Anti-commutator algebra does not change:

$$[\hat{b}^{(2)}_{\vec{p}}, \hat{b}^{(2) \dagger}_{\vec{p}'}]_+ = [\hat{b}^{(2)}_{\vec{p}}, \hat{d}^{(2) \dagger}_{\vec{p}'}]_+ = [\hat{d}^{(2)}_{\vec{p}}, \hat{d}^{(2) \dagger}_{\vec{p}'}]_+ = [\hat{b}^{(2)}_{\vec{p}}, \hat{d}^{(2) \dagger}_{\vec{p}'}]_+ = 0$$

$$[\hat{b}^{(2)}_{\vec{p}}, \dots] = 0$$

$$[\hat{b}^{(2)}_{\vec{p}}, \hat{b}^{(2) \dagger}_{\vec{p}'}]_+ = [\hat{d}^{(2)}_{\vec{p}}, \hat{d}^{(2) \dagger}_{\vec{p}'}]_+ = \delta_{\vec{p}, \vec{p}'} \delta(\vec{p} - \vec{p}')$$

physical vacuum:

$$\hat{b}^{(2)}_{\vec{p}} |0\rangle_P = 0, \quad \hat{d}^{(2)}_{\vec{p}} |0\rangle_P = 0; \quad \vec{p} = 1, 2, -\vec{p}$$

Consequences for Hamilton Operators:

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{r=1}^2 \int d^3p \left\{ E_{\vec{p}} \hat{b}^{(r) \dagger}_{\vec{p}} \hat{b}^{(r)}_{\vec{p}} - E_{\vec{p}} \hat{d}^{(r)}_{\vec{p}} \hat{d}^{(r) \dagger}_{\vec{p}} \right\}$$

$$= - \hat{d}^{(r) \dagger}_{\vec{p}} \hat{d}^{(r)}_{\vec{p}} + \delta(\vec{0})_2$$

$$= \sum_{r=1}^2 \int d^3p \left\{ E_{\vec{p}} \hat{b}^{(r) \dagger}_{\vec{p}} \hat{b}^{(r)}_{\vec{p}} + E_{\vec{p}} \hat{d}^{(r) \dagger}_{\vec{p}} \hat{d}^{(r)}_{\vec{p}} \right\} - \sum_{r=1}^2 \int d^3p E(\vec{p}) \delta(\vec{0})$$

$$: \hat{H} : = \hat{H} - \langle 0 | \hat{H} | 0 \rangle_P$$

particles and antiparticles have positive energies

$$= \langle 0 | \hat{H} | 0 \rangle_P$$

consequence for charge operator:

$$\hat{Q} = \sum_{z=1}^2 \int d^3p \left\{ \underbrace{\tilde{b}_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + b_{\vec{p}}^{(z)}}_{= -\tilde{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + d_{\vec{p}}^{(z)}} + \delta(\vec{0}) \right.$$

$$\left. \therefore \hat{Q} := \hat{Q} - \langle 0 | \hat{Q} | 0 \rangle_P = \sum_{z=1}^2 \int d^3p \left\{ \tilde{b}_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + b_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} - \tilde{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + d_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} \right\}$$

consequence for momentum operator:

$$\hat{\vec{P}} = \sum_{z=1}^2 \int d^3p \left\{ \vec{p} \tilde{b}_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + b_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} - \vec{p} \tilde{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + d_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} \right\}$$

$$= -\tilde{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + d_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + \delta(\vec{0})$$

$$\therefore \hat{\vec{P}} := \hat{\vec{P}} - \langle 0 | \hat{\vec{P}} | 0 \rangle_P$$

$$= \sum_{z=1}^2 \int d^3p \left\{ \vec{p} \tilde{b}_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + b_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + \vec{p} \tilde{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + d_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} \right\}$$

consequence for helicity:

$$\therefore \hat{h} := \hat{h} - \langle 0 | \hat{h} | 0 \rangle_P = \sum_{z=1}^2 \int d^3p \frac{(-1)^{z+1}}{2} \left\{ \tilde{b}_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + b_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + \tilde{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} + d_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} \right\}$$

6.20 Propagator:

$$S_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{x}, \epsilon; \vec{x}', \epsilon') = \int_P \langle 0 | \hat{T} \left( \psi_{\alpha}(\vec{x}, \epsilon) \bar{\psi}_{\beta}(\vec{x}', \epsilon') \right) | 0 \rangle_P$$

$$= \textcircled{1} (t-t') \hat{\psi}_\alpha(\vec{x}, t) \hat{\psi}_\beta(\vec{x}', t') - \textcircled{2} (t'-t) \hat{\psi}_\beta(\vec{x}', t') \hat{\psi}_\alpha(\vec{x}, t)$$

time-ordering for fermions

Aim: Equation of motion

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} S_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') = i\hbar \delta(t-t') \langle 0 | \left[ \hat{\psi}_\alpha(\vec{x}, t), \hat{\psi}_\beta(\vec{x}', t') \right]_+ | 0 \rangle_P$$

$$= \sum_{\sigma=1}^4 (\gamma^0)_{\sigma\beta} \underbrace{\left[ \hat{\psi}_\alpha(\vec{x}, t), \hat{\psi}_\sigma^+(\vec{x}', t') \right]_+}_{= \delta(\vec{x}-\vec{x}')} = \delta(\vec{x}-\vec{x}')$$

$$+ \textcircled{1} (t-t') \sum_{\sigma=1}^4 (-i\hbar c \vec{\alpha}_{\alpha\sigma} \vec{\nabla} + mc^2 \beta_{\alpha\sigma}) \hat{\psi}_\sigma(\vec{x}, t) \hat{\psi}_\beta(\vec{x}', t') | 0 \rangle_P$$

$$- \textcircled{2} (t-t') \langle 0 | \hat{\psi}_\beta(\vec{x}', t') \sum_{\sigma=1}^4 (-i\hbar c \vec{\alpha}_{\alpha\sigma} \vec{\nabla} + mc^2 \beta_{\alpha\sigma}) \hat{\psi}_\sigma(\vec{x}, t) | 0 \rangle_P$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} S(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') = (-i\hbar c \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\nabla} + mc^2 \beta) S(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') + i\hbar \delta^0 \delta(t-t') \delta(\vec{x}-\vec{x}')$$

$$\Rightarrow (i\hbar \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - mc) S(x, x') = i\hbar \delta(x-x')$$

Dirac propagator = Green function of Dirac equation

6.21 Propagator Calculation:



$$\hat{\Psi}(\vec{x}, t) = \int d^3p \left\{ \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^2 \psi_{\vec{p}}^{(n)}(\vec{x}, t) a_{\vec{p}}^{(n)}}_{=: u_{\vec{p}}^{(n)}(\vec{x}, t) = \tilde{b}_{\vec{p}}^{(n)}} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=3}^4 \psi_{\vec{p}}^{(n)}(\vec{x}, t) \tilde{a}_{\vec{p}}^{(n)}}_{=: \sum_{n=1}^2 v_{\vec{p}}^{(n)}(\vec{x}, t) \tilde{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(n)}} \right\}$$

$$\hat{\bar{\Psi}}(\vec{x}, t) = \sum_{n=1}^2 \int d^3p \left\{ \bar{u}_{\vec{p}}^{(n)}(\vec{x}, t) b_{\vec{p}}^{(n)} + \bar{v}_{\vec{p}}^{(n)}(\vec{x}, t) d_{\vec{p}}^{(n)} \right\}$$

$$S_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') = \sum_{n=1}^2 \sum_{n'=1}^2 \int d^3p \int d^3p'$$

$$\left\{ \Theta(t-t') \rho < 0 \right\} \left\{ u_{\vec{p}\alpha}^{(n)}(\vec{x}, t) \tilde{b}_{\vec{p}}^{(n)} + \cancel{v_{\vec{p}\alpha}^{(n)}(\vec{x}, t) \tilde{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(n)}} \right\}$$

$$\cdot \left\{ \bar{u}_{\vec{p}'\beta}^{(n')}(\vec{x}', t') b_{\vec{p}'}^{(n')} + \cancel{\bar{v}_{\vec{p}'\beta}^{(n')}(\vec{x}', t') d_{\vec{p}'}^{(n')}} \right\} |0\rangle_p$$

$$= \Theta(t'-t) \rho < 0 \left\{ \bar{v}_{\vec{p}'\beta}^{(n')}(\vec{x}', t') d_{\vec{p}'}^{(n')} + v_{\vec{p}\alpha}^{(n)}(\vec{x}, t) \tilde{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(n)} \right\} |0\rangle_p$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho < 0 | \tilde{d}_{\vec{p}}^{(n)} \tilde{d}_{\vec{p}'}^{(n')\dagger} |0\rangle_p &= \delta_{nn'} \delta(\vec{p}-\vec{p}') \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^2 \int d^3p \left\{ \Theta(t-t') u_{\vec{p}\alpha}^{(n)}(\vec{x}, t) \bar{u}_{\vec{p}\beta}^{(n)}(\vec{x}', t') \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \Theta(t'-t) v_{\vec{p}\alpha}^{(n)}(\vec{x}, t) \bar{v}_{\vec{p}\beta}^{(n)}(\vec{x}', t') \right\} \end{aligned}$$

propagator  
valid for  
all massive  
particles

$$= \int d^3p \frac{mc^2}{(2\pi\hbar)^3 E_p} \left\{ \textcircled{1} (t-t') e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} [E_p(t-t') - \vec{p}(\vec{x}-\vec{x}')] } P_{\alpha\beta}^u(p) \right. \\ \left. - \textcircled{1} (t'-t) e^{+\frac{i}{\hbar} [E_p(t-t') - \vec{p}(\vec{x}-\vec{x}')] } P_{\alpha\beta}^v(p) \right\}$$

polarisation sums

$$P_{\alpha\beta}^u(p) = \sum_{z=1}^2 u_{\vec{p}\alpha}^{(z)} \bar{u}_{\vec{p}\beta}^{(z)} = \sum_{z=1}^2 \psi_{\vec{p}\alpha}^{(z)} \bar{\psi}_{\vec{p}\beta}^{(z)} = \dots = \frac{p_\mu \gamma^\mu + mc}{2mc}$$

$$P_{\alpha\beta}^v(p) = \sum_{z=3}^4 v_{\vec{p}\alpha}^{(z)} \bar{v}_{\vec{p}\beta}^{(z)} = \sum_{z=3}^4 \psi_{\vec{p}\alpha}^{(z)} \bar{\psi}_{\vec{p}\beta}^{(z)} = \dots = \frac{p_\mu \gamma^\mu - mc}{2mc}$$

$$z=1,2: \psi_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\frac{p_0}{mc}} \chi\left(\frac{(-1)^{z+1}}{2}\right) \\ \sqrt{\frac{p_0}{mc}} \chi\left(\frac{(-1)^{z+1}}{2}\right) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$z=3,4: \psi_{\vec{p}}^{(z)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\frac{p_0}{mc}} \chi\left(\frac{(-1)^z}{2}\right) \\ -\sqrt{\frac{p_0}{mc}} \chi\left(\frac{(-1)^z}{2}\right) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P^v(p) = -P^u(-p)$$

Note: Klein-Gordon recovered for  $P^u(p) \equiv 1$

6.22 Four-dimensional Fermi Representation:

$$S_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') = \int d^3p \frac{mc^2}{(2\pi\hbar)^3 E_p}$$

$i\hbar \partial_\mu$



$$\left. \begin{aligned} & \{ (t-t') e^{-\frac{E}{\hbar} [E_{\vec{p}}(t-t') - \vec{p}(\vec{x}-\vec{x}')] } \frac{\vec{p}_m \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^m + m c \delta_{\alpha\beta}}{m c} \\ & + (t'-t) e^{+\frac{E}{\hbar} [E_{\vec{p}}(t-t') - \vec{p}(\vec{x}-\vec{x}')] } \frac{-\vec{p}_m \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^m + m c \delta_{\alpha\beta}}{m c} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{i \hbar \partial_m \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^m + m c \delta_{\alpha\beta}}{2 m c}$$

$$\underbrace{G(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t')}_{KG}$$

elim - Gordon propagator

$$S(x; x') = \frac{\hat{p}_m \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^m + m c}{2 m c} G(x; x')$$

$$= P^u(i \hbar \partial)$$

valid for any massive particles

$$\downarrow$$

$$S(x; x') = \lim_{\epsilon \downarrow 0} \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi \hbar)^4} \frac{i \hbar}{\vec{p}_m \gamma^m - m c + i \epsilon} e^{-\frac{E}{\hbar} p(x-x')}$$

Feynman prescription

## Chapter 7: Relativistic Light-Matter Interactions

### Introduction:

- QED: all charged particles, interaction via well theory
- 3 stages of description:
  - fermionic

> relativistic mechanics = "minimal coupling" (for all gauge theories)

> first quantisation

> second "

- Result: second quantised Hamiltonian operator of QED
- Treat interaction perturbatively
- Generic scattering problem, described by scattering operator whose matrix elements determine the cross-section